FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to assist the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, with the construction of a New Elias Brookings School to replace the existing school which was extensively damaged by the June 1, 2011 tornado. The proposed project will construct a new school on a four acre site roughly bounded by Hickory Street to the south, Walnut Street and Walnut Street Extension to the west, Marshall Street to the north, and Melrose Street to the east. The proposed project will include a new school building, parking and access ways, playground, school garden, and landscaped areas.

To meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify and evaluate human, historic, and environmental resources that might be affected by proposed construction, mitigation or other actions associated with the construction of the New Elias Brookings School. As part of its goal to ensure that good management decisions are made, FEMA invites the public to review and comment on the Draft EA and to provide FEMA with information it may not have considered in its review. If FEMA finds that the Proposed Alternative, as defined in the EA, will have no significant impact on the natural or human environment after the public comment period, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued by FEMA's Regional Environmental Officer, Jack Sullivan. However, if a change in the scope of work occurs FEMA must be notified to evaluate if the proposed change would alter the potential impacts on the environment.

Beginning on Thursday June 13, 2013, the Draft EA and the Draft FONSI will be posted on FEMA's website at http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7607 and on the City of Springfield's website at http://www3.springfield-ma.gov/finance/public-notice.html. A copy of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI will also be available for public review by June 13, 2013, at the City of Springfield Office of Procurement located at Springfield City Hall, 36 Court Street, Room 307, Springfield, MA 01103, Monday through Friday 8:15AM-4:30 PM. The comment period will last for 21 days, ending on Monday July 4, 2013.

Comments on the Draft EA can be submitted by mailing Jack Sullivan, Regional Environmental Officer at, FEMA Region 1, 99 High Street 6th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, by emailing Jack.Sullivan@fema.dhs.gov, or by sending him a fax at 617-956-7574.